

South King County Projects Update

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In this issue:

- South King County traffic closures this week
- WSDOT selects Icon Materials to build SR 167 improvements between Auburn and Renton
- Detention ponds clean runoff along I-5 in Federal Way
- WSDOT helps train tomorrow's workforce
- Highway advisory radio updates

South King County traffic closures this week

For more details, please visit our [construction update report](#).

Interstate 5

Monday through Friday (daytime)

- Right southbound lane from Military Road to S. 320th to install safety fence.

Monday through Thursday nights

- Up to three northbound lanes between the Pierce County line and S. 320th for paving and pavement improvement work, weather permitting.
- Left southbound lane from S. 320th to the Pierce County line for paving, weather permitting.

Tuesday night

- Two right northbound lanes from S. 320th to Military Road to install curbs and electrical systems.
- Right southbound lane from SR 599 to S. 144th in Tukwila to adjust barriers.

State Route 161

Monday through Friday (daytime)

- Right southbound lane from Military Road to Milton Way for miscellaneous work.

State Route 18 / State Route 164 Interchange

Thursday night

- Drivers should watch for traffic shifts on the exit ramp from eastbound SR 18 to SR 164 in Auburn as crews install traffic signal systems in the roadway.

WSDOT selects Icon Materials to build SR 167 improvements between Auburn and Renton

In late April or early May we'll start construction on a project to [widen SR 167](#) in Auburn. We awarded the \$27.8 million construction contract last Wednesday to the most competitive bidder, Icon Materials of Tukwila. If the name Icon Materials sounds familiar, that's because they are also the prime contractor on the [I-5 - S. 317th Street HOV Direct Access project](#) and the [I-5 - Pierce County Line to S. 320th Street HOV lane widening project](#).

In the SR 167 project, we'll:

- Add a northbound high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane between 15th St. SW and 15th St. NW in Auburn
- Widen most on-ramps between 15th St. NW and S. 180th St. in Renton to add HOV bypass lanes
- Add or upgrade ramp meters
- Enhance safety with median guardrail, wider shoulders, smoother transitions to exit ramps, and a new lighting system at interchanges
- Take care of the environment by creating or enhancing wetlands to compensate for wetlands lost to roadway widening, and building extensive facilities to capture and clean stormwater runoff

When construction is done in fall 2007 there will be a continuous northbound HOV lane between Auburn and Renton. This project is funded by the 2003 gas tax ([Nickel funding](#)).

Detention ponds clean runoff along I-5 in Federal Way

We're building six new ponds along I-5 between S. 320th Street and Milton as part of stage four of the [I-5 HOV widening project](#). Four of these ponds are completed, and we'll finish the other two later this year. To the typical driver, they might seem like just large holes in the ground, but there's more to them than meets the eye. Visit our [ponds Web page](#) to learn how these important parts of our projects work and how they benefit the environment.

WSDOT helps train tomorrow's workforce

The 2006 Washington State legislature adjourned on March 8. One of the bills they passed during this session requires WSDOT to hire certain percentages of apprentices on many of our jobs.

WSDOT requested [this legislation](#). In our [apprenticeship program](#) we provide students and recent graduates the opportunity to gain on-the-job training and real-world work experience in diverse disciplines, shaping them into skilled professionals. Using apprentices helps assure that a trained workforce will be available in sufficient numbers to build projects in the future.

Highway advisory radio updates

Tune your radio to 1520 AM to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail [Laura Johnson](#).

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